

Remarks

An objection was raised with respect to claims 17-21. Claims 17 and 19 are rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their base claim 13 without narrowing the scope of claims 17 and 19. Reconsideration of the objection to claims 17-21 is thus requested.

Claim 14 is amended to correct a typographical error without narrowing the scope of claim 14. In particular, claim 14 is amended to delete the term "said" in front of "second end" and to delete the term "said" in front of "opening." Reconsideration of the § 112 rejection of claim 14 is thus requested.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 103 based on Luby, U. S. Patent No. 5,215,658, in view of Bauer, U. S. Patent No. 4,388,086. The Examiner proffered Luby and Bauer for the proposition that, taken together, they provide an oil filter capable of removing oil from a stream of compressed air. Claim 13 is amended to recite an oil filter that removes impurities from oil upon passage of the oil through the oil filter, as opposed to the proffered filter which removes the oil itself. As such, Luby in view of Bauer would not have rendered obvious the method of amended claim 13. Reconsideration of the § 103 rejection of claim 13 as well as claims 14-16 depending therefrom is requested.

Claim 16 is amended to recite a method comprising "moving said filter retainer relative to said side wall from a retention position in which said filter retainer retains said oil filter to a release position in which said oil filter is movable relative to said filter cap in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter." The Examiner identified the portion of Luby receiving part 16b therein as the filter retainer of claim 16. However, there is no disclosure that this portion moves *relative to a side wall* of the bottom plug 26 (identified by the Examiner as the recited filter cap). Reconsideration of the § 103 rejection of claim 16 is requested for this additional reason.

New claims 24-31 are added.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to file 9518-74632.

Respectfully submitted,
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